



News Release

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Yakima pharmacist suspended on charges of being impaired at work

OLYMPIA — A Yakima pharmacist’s license was immediately suspended by the Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission and the state Department of Health for allegedly being impaired or intoxicated at work.

Charging documents say that two pharmacy technicians saw Rachel L. Loukas (PHRM.PH.60142436) falling asleep while checking prescriptions. When they tried to wake Loukas, she told them, “I’m done” and to call the pharmacy manager. Loukas then allegedly grabbed a bottle of morphine and took about five pills. Loukas was taken to a local hospital and was highly intoxicated. Blood tests showed a high blood-alcohol level, and she also tested positive for morphine.

Loukas has 20 days to request a hearing to contest these charges. She cannot practice in the state of Washington until the charges are resolved.

The documents in this case can be seen online by clicking “[Look up a health care provider](#)” on the [Department of Health website](#). Copies may be requested by calling 360-236-4700; that’s also the number to call to file complaints against health care providers in Washington.

The Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission regulates pharmacists in the state. The commission establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to state residents.

The [Department of Health website](#) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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